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**SMU REINSTATES
WOMEN'S HOCKEY**
CANADIAN TIRE TO
SPONSOR TEAM {page 3}



**MOM SPILLS
PERRY'S BIGGEST
FAN PENS BOOK
DISH** {page 14}



HALIFAX

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Wednesday, March 30, 2011
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News worth
sharing.

Herd. Loss



► Mooseheads forward Charles Bety reacts to a late third-period Montreal Juniors goal on goalie Frederic Piche during last night's playoff game at the Metro Centre. The Mooseheads lost 2-0 and now trail Montreal 3-0 in the series. Story, page 20.

Moose season hanging by a thread

**Leaders pledge
to make good**

Campaign trail heats up with
election promises {page 7}

**Wedding
Shmedding**

Britons sick of hearing about
Wills and Kate's nuptials {page 8}

Oval has place to call home

► About 100,000 people skated on the oval this winter ► Fifty thousand people live within walking distance of oval, and another 50,000 work in area



JENNIFER
TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

A 400-metre oval will be permanently stamped into the Halifax Common, but it comes with a cost.

Council debated it for four hours in committee and approved the project in council yesterday with a vote of 17-2.

But it may mean a 0.8 per cent increase to taxes, which works out to \$7 on a house assessed at \$282,000. HRM staff said that number will likely be lower when the tax increase comes up for approval during budget talks next month.

While there were some concerns raised yesterday, most councillors voiced their support.

"I think we all know where the tide is today," said Coun. Jim Smith.

Coun. Dawn Sloane said "social capital" is worth a lot and budget issues are nothing new.

The city owes it to the downtown businesses to help bring people there, said Coun. Brad Johns.

Sponsorship concerns

Several councillors took issue yesterday with a brewery offering sponsorship of the oval.

► "I don't want to see Molson or Coors on an oval that is used by families," said Coun. Gloria McCluskey.

► Save the Oval has raised \$1 million in sponsorship pledges from Emera (\$500,000), Molson Coors (\$400,000) and the World Figure Skating Legacy Fund (\$100,000).

It will cost \$4.3 million in 2011-12 for the first phase, and \$1.4 million in the second phase in 2012-13.

It will cost about \$410,000 to operate.

"It's great to say we need the oval ... but the debate is do we have our fiscal house in order?" said Coun. Bill Karsten.

If the project passes budget talks in April, construction will start this summer and the oval would be open mid-December.

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Campaign donations targeted

One councillor is fired up about transparency at city hall.

Coun. Brad Johns voiced a motion last night for HRM to ask the province to change legislation so municipal councillors are not able to accept campaign contributions from developers, corporations or unions.

"We all know that public trust in public politicians is at an all-time low and this is one step in correcting that," he said.

"I don't think we have a transparency issue."
COUN. STEVE STREATCH

Johns said it was a proactive motion and he wasn't accusing anyone.

But Coun. Debbie Hum said she had "great concerns" it questions both councillors and the people who have contributed funds. "There are a whole lot of implications here."

Council voted 11-8 to send the motion to the administrative committee, which is debating a code of conduct.

Johns said he wondered if sending the motion to the committee was council's way of killing it.

So he added another notice of motion for the next council meeting to contact Service Nova Scotia to create a database of campaign contributions and to post it online. Currently, contributions are kept on paper in the clerk's office.

● JENNIFER TAPLIN

Centre, turf OK'd for Bedford school

A community centre and artificial turf are coming for the soon-to-be-built high school in Bedford.

Halifax regional council voted yesterday to move ahead with a partnership plan with the province for the school, which is set to open in the fall of 2013.

The costs of the community centre and artificial turf are \$10.7 million. HRM will contribute \$1 million this

fiscal year, split evenly between the general tax rate and the area tax rate for Bedford-Hammonds Plains.

The rest will be worked into the budget in future years.

"It's an incredible opportunity," said Bedford Coun. Tim Outhit.

● JENNIFER TAPLIN



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halifax

1
news



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Gord McIntosh on how the Liberals allowed themselves to be run over by the coalition charge. More at metronews.ca/spindocor.



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SMU reinstates women's hockey

► Team coach Lisa Jordan describes reversal as 'a huge positive'

► More details coming today

Saint Mary's University has reinstated its women's hockey program after a barrage of public criticism and a pledge from Canadian Tire to provide corporate sponsorship for the team.

In a news release issued last night, Saint Mary's president Colin Dodds says the decision to cancel the program was a mistake and the university is sorry it took that step.

"The decision to cancel the women's varsity hockey program last week, in response to budget pressures, was wrong and we deeply regret it," Dodds says.

"We are taking several initiatives to earn back the respect lost so as to ensure that our students, alumni and friends continue to be enriched by the tradition and contributions of our fe-

Shaken trust

► Head coach Lisa Jordan says some of the 18 players eligible to return next season are reconsidering on the grounds the university broke faith by targeting the program in the first place.

male athletes."

An executive meeting of the university's board voted yesterday morning to keep the team. The full board ratified the decision later in the day.

Dodds says he was "troubled" that last week's decision to cancel the program created the impression Saint Mary's was backing away from its commitment to support gender equality in sports and academics.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Saint Mary's hockey players rally to save their team during last week's protest on the university campus.



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REMANDED INTO CUSTODY

Man on the lam from court ... but not for long

A man briefly escaped police custody yesterday following a court appearance in Cape Breton, but was quickly found and arrested.

A spokeswoman from the Department of Justice says the man had been in court in Eskasoni and managed to escape while in a holding room

following his appearance.

Tara Walsh says he was arrested after "several hours," by RCMP officers and returned to custody.

The Justice Department says the man was originally charged with unlawful confinement, and had been remanded into custody.

Walsh says that she's unsure if the holding room was locked or not.

She says Justice Minister Ross Landry is planning to make a policy announcement today on how the province informs the public about major incidents that occur with people in custody. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Police post 'Wanted List'

Halifax Regional Police is now issuing a "Wanted List" of people with outstanding arrest warrants.

The first bimonthly list posted online includes seven men and one woman, ranging in age from 19 to 55. Police say a new list will be created every two months.

The list is posted at halifax.ca/police/HeatList.

Charges on the initial Outstanding Warrants Arrest List include alleged offences like impaired driving, drug trafficking and theft.

The longest list of charges belongs to 26-year-old Daniel Frankel, who is wanted for assault with a weapon, assault causing bodily harm, resisting arrest, obstructing a police officer, robbery, possession of stolen property and failing to attend court.

"Essentially, we have followed all avenues we can to try and find them,



▶ Daniel Frankel

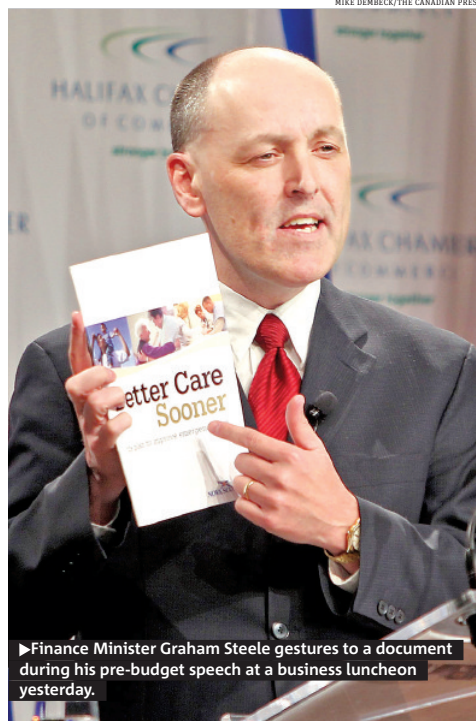
and now we're making a list public every two months in attempt to help get information on their whereabouts or hopefully to encourage them to turn themselves in," police spokesman Const. Brian Palmeter said.

Police are warning the public to not approach any of the individuals on the list, and to call police with any information they may have, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

● PHILIP CROUCHER

Budget to offer small tax cut, predicted deficit

▶ Province on track to balance books in 2013, says finance minister



▶ Finance Minister Graham Steele gestures to a document during his pre-budget speech at a business luncheon yesterday.



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

Nova Scotians can expect a small concession for small business and a projected \$370-million deficit in next week's provincial budget.

Finance Minister Graham Steele told the Halifax Chamber of Commerce yesterday the governing NDP will reduce the small business tax rate by 0.5 per cent to four per cent.

"We think that's a great move to support our hard working small business owners," Steele said.

It's the second year in a row the government reduced the tax by half a point.

Steele also revealed the 2011-12 deficit will indeed be in the \$370-million range, as forecast in Steele's December budget update.

The fiscal year coming to a close on Friday will see a \$97-million surplus, putting the province temporarily back in black ink. That number was also predicted in December, and is mostly

"(The NDP) laid out a plan, it's been two years, they're moving forward on that plan."

HALIFAX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PRESIDENT VALERIE PAYN

due to one time windfalls.

The province was originally predicting a deficit of \$222 million for 2010-2011.

Steele would not say whether the government would take the costly move of indexing personal income tax brackets.

"I've got to have something on budget day to keep you guys interested," Steele said.

The Tory government of 2006 committed to indexing personal income tax brackets in their budget, which passed with the support of all three parties.

It is legislated to take effect on April 1 of this year, four days before the budget is tabled — but requires the recommendation of the finance minister, and so is left up to the government of the day.

Mock budget targets health care

Hours before Finance Minister Graham Steele gave a few more details on the upcoming budget, a small group gathered at Province House to table a significantly different document.

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives released their 10th annual alternative budget yesterday, titled "Striking a Healthy Balance."

The document attempts to balance fiscal health

with physical health, emphasizing primary care and health care equity.

"Budgets are about choices," said Atlantic director Christine Saulnier. "Choices reflect the values and priorities of those who make them."

For the CCPA, those priorities centre around eliminating the poverty gap, emphasizing education from primary to post-secondary, investing in afford-

able housing and bolstering public transportation.

"Those are some of the strategic priorities that the alternative budget puts forward this year," said Kyle Buott of the Halifax-Dartmouth Labour Council.

"Each of these items are costed out ... what we're putting forward today is a program the provincial government can hopefully use in the future in order to make the investments that

Alternative view

▶ To fund expanded initiatives and programs, the CCPA recommends income tax reform, eliminating subsidies distributed by Nova Scotia Business Inc. to corporations and increasing fees that dovetail with environmental sustainability.

Nova Scotians need."

The full budget document is available at policyalternatives.ca.

● ALEX BOUTILIER

Mount Royale
COMMUNITY ABOVE ALL.

News in brief



Day parole granted for killer

Almost 19 years after a botched robbery in Cape Breton led to the deaths of three people, one of the three convicted killers involved has been granted day parole.

The National Parole Board, in a pre-release decision delivered yesterday, said Darren Richard Muise will be released from prison, but he must reside at a federally regulated halfway house on weekdays for the next six months.

The board will not

disclose where Muise is living.

Muise, who is from Glace Bay, was 18 when he pleaded guilty to armed robbery and second-degree murder in the stabbing death of Neil Burroughs, a maintenance worker at the McDonald's in Sydney River.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Public Gardens set to bloom

The opening of the Halifax Public Gardens is just two weeks away.

The municipality issued a late-night release yesterday saying the gates to the Gardens will open on Wednesday, April 13.

Hours for the public will be from 8 a.m. to dusk each day.

For the past year, restoration on the Gardens' bandstand has been ongoing, but that is now complete. An event to celebrate the re-opening is scheduled for Victoria Day, May 23.

● METRO

Dalhousie aims for 21st century upgrade

► Largest fundraising campaign ever launched for an Atlantic Canadian university ► \$170 million raised so far



Dalhousie University officially launched its largest fundraising campaign ever yesterday.

Titled Bold Ambitions, the campaign is looking to raise \$250 million to equip the university for the 21st century.

About half of the money raised will directly benefit students through scholarships, learning opportunities, and health and wellness infrastructure.

The other half will go toward renovations, infrastructure and non-traditional education strategies.

"We're not finished our campaign," said Dalhousie president Tom Traves, not-



► Students walk past the Henry Hicks building on the Dalhousie campus in this file photo.

ing 70 per cent of this money has already been raised, including funds from previous donations. "But we're totally confident now of its complete success."

In fact, Traves hopes to surpass the fundraising goal before they decide to close the campaign in a few years.

"I'm sure that we will not only make our target, I'm hopeful that at some point we can just go right past it and keep on going," he said.

"There's no limit to all the good things we can do at the university if we get enough support. It's very exciting."

The campaign is spread-

The goals

Cost of some initiatives:

- \$20 million – Innovation and Design in Engineering and Architecture Building
- \$50 million – Inter-professional Health Education Facility
- \$20 million – wellness/fitness centre
- \$10 million – Wing for Performing Arts
- \$12 million – renovations
- \$38.5 million – scholarships, bursaries, awards

ing beyond the local area with 60 per cent of donations coming from outside Atlantic Canada.

Bold Ambitions has also seen notable donations from the \$1- to \$20-million range for a variety of different projects.

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Murder charges for alleged Hells Angel

A preliminary hearing has been set for an alleged Hells Angels affiliate facing first-degree murder charges in relation to the deaths of a couple in Hants County.

Curtis Blair Lynds, a convicted drug trafficker serving time in federal prison, faces two counts of

first-degree murder in the deaths of Barry Kirk Mersereau and Nancy Christensen.

The couple was found slain in their Centre Burlington home in September 2000.

Lynds, 34, was not present during a Windsor provincial court proceeding when Judge Alan Tufts set aside Oct. 11 to 28, excluding Oct. 19 to 21, for a preliminary hearing in relation to his case.

TRANSCONTINENTAL MEDIA

Found body identified in Glace Bay

An autopsy has ruled out foul play in connection to a body found last week in Glace Bay.

Cape Breton Regional Police have also identified the deceased as 52-year-old Francis Rose, a Glace Bay resident who had been missing since Dec. 31.

Thursday evening a couple walking through a path in a field from Ling Street to Reserve Street called police after noticing a fox tugging on something in a swamp.

The man's body was removed from the swamp and transported to the Cape Breton Regional Hospital.

Police have now cleared the scene, which they had been keeping secure until completion of the autopsy. ● METRO

Theatrical SuperNova hits the stage in May

► SuperNova Theatre Festival to hold all plays at Neptune Studio Theatre
► Event runs from May 18 to 29

A variety of Canadian plays will be showcased at Eastern Front Theatre's annual SuperNova Theatre Festival.

Scott Burke, artistic producer at Eastern Front, said the May festival now in its 18th year will feature plays from coast to coast.

"Part of what we want the audience to experience is kind of a snapshot of contemporary theatre practice from across the country," he said at a press conference yesterday announcing the festival's lineup.

This is Burke's fifth year and Eastern Front and he said this will be the best festival yet.

"We're extremely excited. The roster of shows this year is particularly geared to a slightly younger audience," he said.

The lineup includes seven productions, including musicals, comedies and "eye-opening shows."

One play is called *nggrfg*, a one-man show described as a touching yet comedic story about growing up black and gay in an intolerant community.

Another play is called *WeeTube*, a show using publicly posted YouTube video comments as dialogue between two people while videos are playing as the backdrop.

● LAURA WARREN

For details

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► Amy Reitsma performing yesterday *A Song About Love* from the play *So...What About Love?*

Who meritted an award?

Theatre Nova Scotia has announced the winners of the 12th annual Merritt Awards celebrating excellence in provincial theatre.

Graham Percy won best performance by an actor in a leading role for his portrayal of John Proctor in *The Crucible*

performed at Two Planks and a Passion Theatre.

Top women's lead actor went to Susan Leblanc Crawford for the role of Sam in *Zuppa Theatre's* 5 easy steps to the end of the World.

Outstanding direction went to Jean Morpurgo for the Antigonish Festival's performance of Maggie's Getting Married. The winners were announced Monday night at Alderney Landing Theatre. ● METRO

Campaign trail promises toe party lines

- Tories rehash tax credits to help small businesses
- Liberals focus on students in Day 4 of campaign

Help for small business. A boost to post-secondary students. A kick in the shins to the big banks.

It was a day of ideological retrenchment on the campaign trail yesterday as the three major federalist parties retreated to their traditional policy corners for a breather.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper peeled a page from his recent, stillborn budget to re-announce a modest, one-year, \$1,000 tax credit to help small businesses protect against increases to employment insurance premiums.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff made his first big policy pitch of the 36-day campaign that culminates May 2 — a \$1 billion-a-year pledge for new, tax-free stu-

Student savings

Liberal Leader and international academic Michael Ignatieff focused Day 4 of the campaign on post-secondary students.

- Ignatieff's plan would provide students \$1,000 a year for four years — up to \$1,500 a year for low-income families.
- The grants would go into education savings accounts for 14- to 17-year-olds as they approach post-secondary school age.
- A Liberal release said current post-secondary students would also benefit from a transition period program.

dent grants to assist roughly a million families with college or university costs.

And Jack Layton of the NDP reprised his own hardy perennial: a vow to legislate lower interest rate charges on consumer credit cards.

Even Bloc Quebecois Leader Gilles Duceppe went old school with a rousing defence of French language protections in Quebec.

For Ignatieff — the international academic whose work abroad has been turned by the Tories into a cudgel against him — the showpiece was a big boost to a previous Liberal government's popular Registered Education Savings Plan program.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Shark. Attack



► Jason Kresse holds a 170-kilogram shark that leapt into his boat Monday during a fishing trip in Freeport, Texas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/COURTESY JASON KRESSE

Jumped the shark

A mako shark leapt into the boat of a small fishing crew while they were catching red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico, Monday. Jason Kresse says the shark thrashed around their boat for hours before dying.

Ex-Tory aide leaves key riding after RCMP probe

A former Conservative staffer under investigation by the RCMP has left his volunteer job in a key electoral battleground, Prime Minister Stephen Harper says.

Harper told a news conference in Regina yesterday that Sebastien Togneri is no longer working in the riding of Edmonton-Strathcona.

The announcement came after The Canadian Press learned Togneri was helping the campaign of Ryan Hastman, a Conservative with ties to the Prime Minister's Office.

Hastman is trying to wrest away the only riding in Alberta the Conservatives did not win in 2008.

As a senior aide to a cabinet minister in 2009, Togneri demanded that government officials block the release of a document requested by The Canadian Press under Access to Information laws.

Public Works Minister Rona Ambrose called in the Mounties this month to determine if charges should be laid.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

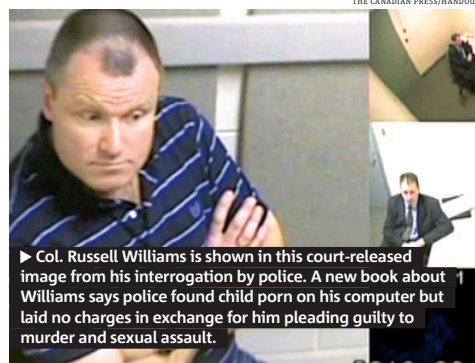
Williams avoided child porn charges: Book

Police found child porn on serial sex criminal Russell Williams' computer but laid no charges in exchange for him pleading guilty to murder and sexual assault, a new book says.

The former commander of Canada's largest military airfield wouldn't admit to downloading pictures of teenaged girls in sexual positions, Globe and Mail reporter Timothy Appleby writes in A New Kind of Monster. A source quoted in the book said Williams couldn't face the stigma at-

tached to child pornography, though he was willing to plead guilty to murder, rape and a series of sexually motivated break-ins.

"This is a guy who structured his life around how he saw others act, and that's how his morality base came about," said the source, who was involved in the case. "In the military, you can kill people, it's accepted ... it's within the realm of human behaviour. And in war, rape is within that realm as well. The one thing that isn't ... is (sexual



► Col. Russell Williams is shown in this court-released image from his interrogation by police. A new book about Williams says police found child porn on his computer but laid no charges in exchange for him pleading guilty to murder and sexual assault.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

abuse of children."

Little is known about what sparked Williams' double life and turned him into a predator. The book argues Williams' sense of shame, strong emotions and close personal attachments set him apart from most serial killers.

Investigators and justice officials realized Williams cared about his wife, the military and his cats — emotions that break with the traditional profile of a sociopath, the book reads.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Criminal record

Williams was convicted in October of first-degree murder in the sex slayings of Cpl. Marie-France Comeau, 38, of Brighton, Ont., and Jessica Lloyd, 27, of Belleville, Ont.

- Williams is serving a life sentence with no possibility of parole for 25 years.
- He also pleaded guilty to 82 fetish break-and-enters and thefts as well as two sexual assaults.

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Leaders won't offer arms for Libyan rebels

► Agree Gadhafi must go, but stop short of active support for rebels ► Qatar will help market oil

World powers agreed yesterday that Moammar Gadhafi should step down after 42 years as Libya's ruler, but did not discuss arming the rebels who are seeking to oust him.

Top diplomats from up to 40 countries met for crisis talks yesterday in London on the future of the North African nation, but British Foreign Secretary William Hague told reporters the subject of arming rebels simply did not come up.

He said Libya was under a UN-mandated arms embargo and that the restrictions "in our view apply to the whole of Libya."

Hague's comments sug-

Rebel retreat

Libyan government tanks and rockets pounded rebel forces — who attempted an assault on Moammar Gadhafi's hometown of Sirte — into full retreat yesterday.

► Opposition fighters fleeing in a panicked scramble pleaded for international airstrikes that never came.

gest that the UN-backed coalition cobbled together to defend civilians from Gadhafi's onslaught is still hanging back from throwing its entire weight behind the ill-organized

rebels, whose exact make-up and motives remain unclear.

But Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Hamad Bin Jabr al-Thani seemed to leave the door open to arms sales when he suggested that the issue might be revisited if the aerial campaign fell short of its stated goal of protecting Libyan civilians.

Qatar, which has recognized the rebels as Libya's legitimate representatives, also plans to help them sell crude on the international market. Yet while there has been talk of using Qatar to market Libya's oil for days, details have remained sketchy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Britons cope with wedding fatigue

There's still a month to go until the royal wedding and yet some Britons are already asking: Is it over yet?

While millions around the world are following every detail of the wedding planning — the guest list, the cake, the carriage, the dress — others are desperately trying to tune it out.

For many British businesses, the wedding is good news — bringing in extra tourists, giving a boost to hotels, restaurants, shops and royal-related tourist attractions.

But there also will be an exodus, with several million Britons heading abroad, thanks to the lucky timing of the wedding day — a holiday for most — between the Easter weekend and the May Day public holiday. Clever employees quickly calculated they could get an 11-day break by taking only three days off work.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Daniil Korotkiikh found a bottle with a letter on a beach at the village of Morskoye, Russia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/VIKTOR GUSEINOV

Message in a bottle surfaces after 24 years

Nearly a quarter-century after a German boy tossed a message in a bottle off a ship in the Baltic Sea, he's received an answer.

A 13-year-old Russian, Daniil Korotkiikh, was walking with his parents on a beach when he saw something glittering in the sand. "It looked like a German beer bottle with a ceramic plug, and there was a message inside," he said.

His father, who knows schoolboy German, translated the letter, carefully wrapped in cellophane.

It said: "My name is Frank, and I'm five years old. My dad and I are travelling on a ship to Denmark. If you find this letter, please write back to me, and I will write back to you."

The letter, dated 1987, included an address in the town of Coesfeld.

The boy in the letter, Frank Uesbeck, is now 29. His parents still live at the letter's address.

The Russian boy and the German man met each other earlier this month via an Internet video link.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EU talks stall on banning cloned food animals

European Union negotiators yesterday abandoned widely popular new legislation that would have banned cloning animals to produce food, after all-night talks bogged down in disagreement.

Last-ditch negotiations ended at 7 a.m. after rep-

resentatives of the European Parliament and the EU governments could not find a compromise on how to treat the offspring of cloned animals — despite overwhelming agreement on banning food from the actual clone.

The collapse of talks caps three years of back and forth between the parliament and the European Council, which represents the 27 EU states, on the so-called "novel food" regulation.

It leaves the EU with its 1997 law that requires

special authorization for milk and meat from cloned animals, but does not ban the practice of cloning nor the import of food from cloned animals. It is a victory for food producers from countries such as United States, where cloning is more advanced than in Europe.

Concerns revolve mostly around animals, embryos and semen imported from the United States — and to a lesser extent Argentina, Brazil and Japan — where

Controversial

There is no scientific evidence of negative health effects from eating food from cloned animals or their offspring, according to the European Commission.

► However, the practice remains controversial, since

a large majority of cloned animals die shortly after birth or after conception.

► More than 60 per cent of EU citizens think animal cloning is "morally wrong," while 84 per cent are concerned that the long-term effects of animal cloning on nature are unknown, according to an EU survey from 2008.

cloning is more advanced. The U.S. has a voluntary moratorium on sales of foodstuff taken from

clones, but there are no rules for the descendants of cloned animals.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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► Silvio Berlusconi's defence lawyers want George Clooney and his girlfriend, Italian actress Elisabetta Canalis, to testify at the prime minister's upcoming prostitution trial.

George Clooney called to defend Italian PM?

Silvio Berlusconi's defence lawyers named George Clooney, the Italian foreign minister and a bevy of showgirls as witnesses at the premier's upcoming prostitution trial, an attorney and news reports said yesterday.

Prosecutors, for their part, have asked to hear from 136 witnesses, including the Moroccan teenager at the centre of the scandal and 32 other women who allegedly worked as prostitutes during parties at Berlusconi's

villa, according to Italian news reports.

Both sides presented their lists of witnesses at the Milan tribunal where the trial opens next week. A judge must now decide which witnesses to admit. The 74-year-old Berlus-

coni is accused of paying for sex with the Moroccan, who is known as Ruby and was 17 at the time, and then using his influence to try to cover it up.

The prime minister denies wrongdoing. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

German man kidnapped — and brought to justice

A retired German doctor who was kidnapped and left in front of a French courthouse on the orders of a grieving father went on trial in Paris yesterday over the killing of a teenage girl 29 years ago.

The unusual trial is the culmination of a decades-long battle between two men, in two countries, now both in their 70s. But it also raises larger questions — about cross-border justice in the borderless European Union, and whether the father was right to try to take justice into his own hands.

Defence lawyers asked the judge to suspend the proceedings and seek a European Court of Justice

ruling on whether the trial is valid. A decision on that request was postponed until today.

Dieter Krombach lived in freedom for years in Germany after his stepdaughter, Kalinka Bamperski, a 15-year-old with wavy blond hair and a shy smile, was found dead in her bed in July 1982 in his home in Germany. The girl and her mother had moved in with Krombach after the girl's parents separated.

The girl's father, Andre Bamperski, believes that Krombach gave his daughter a dangerous injection to make her lose consciousness so he could rape her, leading to her death, Bamperski's lawyers say.

France convicted Krombach in absentia in 1995 of "intentional violence that led to unintentional death" and sentenced him to 15 years in prison.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REMY DE LA MAUVINIERE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Diana Gunther arrives at a Paris courthouse yesterday to attend the trial of her father, retired German doctor Dieter Krombach.

'To Daddy': Smugglers get creative at U.S. jail

Authorities say there was nothing innocent about colouring book pages with the words "To Daddy" scribbled on top and mailed to a New Jersey jail.

Five people are facing charges after the prescription drug Suboxone, which is used to treat opioid addiction, was turned into a paste

and the paste was drawn on the pages.

Cape May County Sheriff Gary Schaffer tells The Press of Atlantic City a source tipped off a corrections officer about the scheme and the mailroom found colouring book pages with an orangey substance in February.

Three inmates are charged with conspiracy and attempt to commit a crime.

Two women are charged with intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance and intent to distribute within a school zone.

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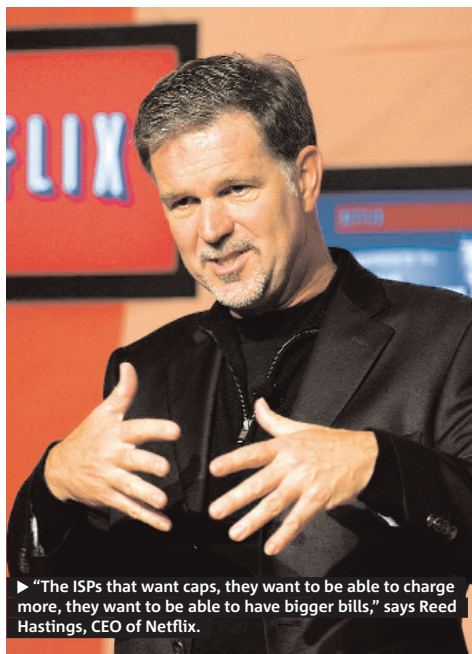
Fix is in on card fees: Lawsuit

Visa, MasterCard and Canada's biggest banks conspired to fix the fees charged to businesses that accept credit cards, a class-action lawsuit alleges. The suit filed in B.C. Supreme Court says the companies force retailers to accept all of their cards, even those that charge higher fees, which they are not allowed to pass on to consumers. The companies deny the allegations. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Market moment

TSX	Dollar
	
+ 37.62 (13,930.35)	+ 0.20¢ (102.6¢ US)
Oil	Natural gas
	1,000 cu ft
+ 81¢ US (\$104.79 US)	\$4.263 US (- 18.5¢ US)
	Gold contracts
	\$1,416.20 US (- \$3.70 US)

Mad caps drive up Internet bills: Netflix



► "The ISPs that want caps, they want to be able to charge more, they want to be able to have bigger bills," says Reed Hastings, CEO of Netflix.

► ISPs should not charge dollars per gigabyte in overage fees, CEO says

Canadian Internet providers are using data caps to inflate their profits, not provide better service, says Reed Hastings, CEO of Netflix.

The video-streaming company has released a plan to combat low downloading allowances, but Hastings said yesterday that customers shouldn't have to ration their data use. The true cost of that data is less than a penny per gigabyte and shrinking, he said, though Internet providers have disputed that figure.

On Monday, Netflix reeled out options to conserve data consumption. Users can still watch a movie or TV show with the best available quality, which can take more than two gigabytes per hour to stream. But a new default

"Internet traffic is extremely cheap and the problem is there's not much competition and that's why you get these big prices."

NETFLIX CEO REED HASTINGS ON DATA-CAP BILLS

setting — at a lesser quality — will consume only 300 megabytes an hour.

With the new setting, watching 30 hours of content a month would transfer about nine gigabytes of data, which Hastings notes would come under the caps of most Internet plans.

U.S.-based Netflix, which launched in Canada in September, is on track to add its one-millionth Canadian customer this summer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TODAY'S RESOURCES, TOMORROW'S LEGACY

IT'S THE END OF RELIGION AS WE KNOW IT

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN



Lost in the manufactured frenzy of the fourth federal election call in seven years is a much more important story.

According to a mathematical formula devised by a bunch of professors, Canada is one of nine countries losing its religion.

The others include the usual goddess suspects: The Netherlands, the Czech Republic and Finland, but included a couple of surprises, such as Ireland, which has only recently emerged from mandatory catechism classes, and Switzerland, land of theologians. Australia and New Zealand, who have already sent the Queen packing, are also in danger of tossing God

off the cart.

It's a progression and if we keep telling the census we don't belong to any organized religion, there eventually won't be any organized religion. It's a self-fulfilling prophecy, which explains perhaps why the Harper Government (trademark registered), a champion of organized religion, sank the long census form and its snoopy religion questions.

Don't ask, don't tell.

If you are a regular churchgoer, you won't like the way it's going. More than half of young Canadians aged 15 to 29 claim to have no religious identity. In 100 years, we will all be sleeping in Sunday morning.

The same thing is going on, though to a lesser degree, in the more God-fearing U.S., where 25 to 30 per cent of 20-somethings have no religious affiliation.

The reason? They're tired of right-wing geezers hijacking the agenda and are voting with their feet.

Speaking of right-wing geezers, Pope Benedict XVI is still making pronouncements from the Vatican.

I suppose that's his prerogative when it comes to matters moral, although recent musings on condoms from a celibate 83-year-old white guy didn't do much to enlighten the faithful.

But that hasn't stifled his enthusiasm for pronouncements. Not long ago, he dabbled in quantum physics and claimed to have it on good authority that God was behind the Big Bang — the creation of the universe.

You have to ask: How does he know? Especially because Stephen Hawking, the world's

foremost quantum physicist, says the universe was able to kick-start itself thanks to the law of gravity. No God involved.

Take it on my authority, says the Pope, but according to the aforementioned professors, just sayin' it doesn't do it any more.

Too bad that hasn't stopped Hawking himself from making baseless pronouncements not grounded in science: He warned recently that humankind should avoid contact with aliens at all costs, since they're likely to be equipped with superior firepower — and hostile.

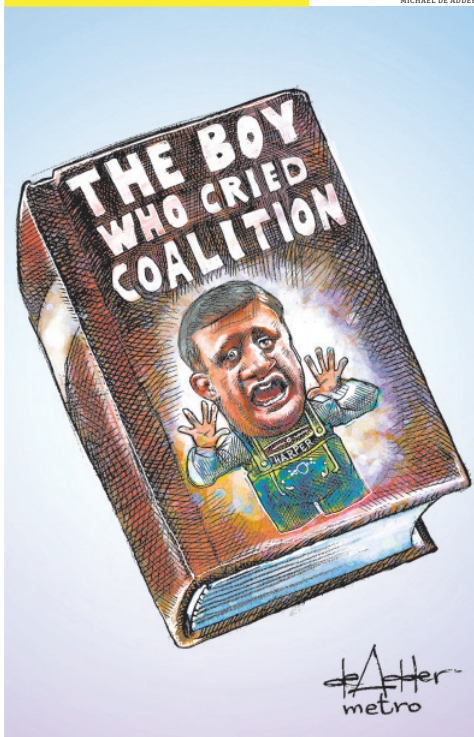
Not sure why. Maybe God has abandonment issues and he's on their side.



Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsayin

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER



Cheer up, it's good news

Worth mentioning

Good news begets better people.

That's the conclusion of new research from the University of British Columbia that says people are inspired to do good by reading media stories about selfless acts by Good Samaritans, instead of negative stories.

Lead author Karl Aquino says the news media has a tendency to celebrate bad behaviour, citing the coverage of the recent exploits of Charlie Sheen and articles that focus on crime.

He said four separate studies found a direct link between a person's

Inspirational



exposure to media accounts of extraordinary virtue and their yearning to change the world.

In one experiment, people exposed to stories of uncommon goodness gave 24 per cent more money to charity than those exposed to reports that were merely positive.

Aquino said the

findings could have implications in crisis situations like the recent disasters in Japan, because focusing on examples of extraordinary goodness within the crisis may be a more effective way to encourage people to help than inundating them with stories of desperation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Metro Minute with Funny Money

A new play at Dartmouth Players Theatre is looking to have you laughing in the aisles.

Titled Funny Money by Ray Cooney and directed by Cliff Tyner, the play is described as one that leads to "increasingly hysterical situations."

The story is about an accountant who accidentally picks up the wrong brief

case, only to discover later it's full of money. This leads to laughs as he tries to get himself out of the situation.

The play is premiering tonight with a sold-out show and will continue through to April 16. Tickets and showtime information are available at dartmouthplayers.ns.ca.

● METRO

Funny Money
by Ray Cooney



Funny Money is playing at the Dartmouth Players Theatre through to April 16.

CONTRIBUTED

2 scene

Rosie



The Oprah Winfrey Show is shutting down at the end of the season, but the lights won't be going out at Winfrey's studio in Chicago. That's because Rosie O'Donnell's new talk show will be produced at Harpo Studios on Chicago's West Side. O'Donnell is slated to return to daytime TV this Fall on OWN.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Scoop! Perez Hilton has deal for children's book, 'The Boy With Pink Hair'



► Hop director Tim Hill credits Russell Brand's voicing of the lead animated character for bringing the movie an edgier feel.

Down the rabbit hole

- Russell Brand-voiced renegade hare draws the audience into this altered children's tale
- Hop blends family entertainment with an edgier approach for this physical comedy flick



STEVE GOW
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

There have literally been hundreds of portrayals of Santa Claus in cinema. But the Easter Bunny — not so much. But with this Friday's release of Hop, things may finally change for the egg-hiding hare.

"I don't think the Easter Bunny ever sparkled in Hollywood's mind as a character that could be explored and just kind of be invented, whereas Santa has its own myth," said Hop director Tim Hill. "(Everyone knows) there's

supposed to be this Easter Bunny that delivers baskets and we have Easter egg hunts but that's about it so it presents an opportunity to create your own mythology."

In Hop's case, that means inventing a secret world on Easter Island where the Easter Bunny and his chick workers craft candy and painted eggs year-round. It also means that when it comes to his son taking over the family business, the Russell Brand-voiced renegade rabbit runs away to play rock and roll.

"It's hard to imagine

"It's hard to imagine having made the movie, doing it without Russell Brand because he brings that edgy side to it."

TIM HILL

having made the movie, doing it without Russell Brand because he brings that edgy side to it," said Hill, who admits there was plenty of adlibbing in the recording studio. "His mind works so fast; he

wants to alter the line and play with it and he wants to improve it. My philosophy with him was to let him bring what he wanted to bring because most of it is great."

Hill is a slight renegade himself. Having majored in French literature, family entertainment was not his life's agenda. But with hits like Alvin and the Chipmunks behind him, it's certainly proven an area of expertise.

"I love to see kids laugh," said Hill. "And I've always been a big fan of physical comedy. I just think there's a whole visu-

Nuance

Tim Hill on Russell Brand:

Quote "If you can keep him within the parameters of a family movie, he really is a good actor," said Hill of Russell Brand. "He was able to get all those nuances and it makes a complex character and I think that's a big part of what makes an animated character work."

al side of comedy that all ages appreciate, but especially kids."

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EASTERN SHORE, JUNE 17
Eastern Shore Community Centre, Musquodoboit Harbour

DARTMOUTH, JUNE 24
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celebrate remember fight back



► The chariot race from Ben Hur is a classic.

HOPPING TO EASTER'S HIDDEN HOLIDAY FILMS

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



There are as many different kinds of Easter movies as there are colours on the most psychedelic Ukrainian Easter egg. From kid friendly romps like Hop, this weekend's comedy for kids about an errant Easter Bunny, to the rock opera Jesus Christ Superstar to all-singing-all-dancing spectacles like Easter Parade to sword-and-sandal epics like Ben Hur and solemn retellings of the biblical Easter story like The Greatest Story Ever Told.

Then there are horror

films like Easter Bunny, Kill Kill and the terrifying Easter Bunny from Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey... so many diverse takes on Easter, but since there's no way to watch all these movies on Easter weekend, let's hippity-hop through a list of the bunny's greatest hits.

Controversial in its time — fundamentalist Bob Jones III denounced it as "blasphemy" without actually watching the film — Jesus of Nazareth, director Franco Zeffirelli's epic 1977 mini-series is now considered a classic. Clocking in at a whopping 382 minutes it's a reverent look at Jesus' life from his birth to resurrection starring heavyweights like Laurence Olivier, Anthony Quinn, Anne Bancroft and Christopher Plummer.

From the sacred to the sublime, it's the Easter Beagle, Charlie Brown continues Charles Schultz's tradition of providing a story for every holiday, both secular and spiritual.

The 12th Peanuts cartoon special sees Linus try to hype up the arrival of the Easter Beagle but only Sally believes him. The rest of the gang is

still unsure in light of Linus's Great Pumpkin Halloween fiasco. This special, now available on DVD, features one of the only times Snoopy ever spoke on screen. He shouts "Hey!" before dancing with bunnies in a fantasy sequence.

Fred Astaire, the legendary song-and-dance man was no stranger to holiday entertainment. His Christmas special Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town is a Yuletide favorite but he also appeared in no less than three Easter-themed movies and TV shows. Astaire's movie Holiday Inn, the 1942 story of a singer who turns his farm house into a dinner theatre on the holidays, is best known for introducing Bing Crosby's White Christmas, but also produced the tune Easter Parade, which turned up six years later in the hooper's film of the same name.

Finally, years later he played the narrator in the Rankin/Bass stop motion animated The Easter Bunny's Coming to Town. Set in Kidville, the most child-friendly place on earth, it is the story of how the Easter Bunny came to be.

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Colombia.....	from 3.9 ¢/min	Trinidad.....	4.9 ¢/min	U.A.E.....	14.9 ¢/min
Cuba.....	89.9 ¢/min	U.K.....	2.9 ¢/min	Vietnam.....	4.9 ¢/min
El Salvador.....	9.9 ¢/min	Serbia.....	7.9 ¢/min		
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N.Y. hotels balking at the Sheen show

► Big hotels refusing to house Charlie and Co. as speaking tour kicks off

Charlie Sheen is coming to New York for his speaking tour, but first he needs to find a place to stay — and no hotel in the city wants him, according to Page Six.

"Many of the big New York hotels don't want the drama," a source says. "He is now looking at renting a private residence."

But a source close to Sheen claims the problems have all been logistical.

"The real issue is finding him a hotel that allows smoking. He has to be able to smoke," the source says. "And it's hard to find a place that will accommodate him, plus his entourage that will be more than 30, including the lighting people and of course the goddesses."

● METRO



► Charlie Sheen

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES FILE

Talking points

Racy pics of Aguilera set to leak?

PEOPLE Christina Aguilera may have a racy photo scandal on her hands, as a digital storage card containing hundreds of the singer's intimate photographs was found in a French hotel room, according to Radar Online. The images allegedly show the singer at Nicole Richie's bachelorette party and in bed with boyfriend Matt Rutler. A man who claims he discovered the card approached Radar, offering to sell the images. ● METRO

Perry's mom peddles book

PEOPLE Katy Perry's mother, Mary Perry Hudson, is shopping a book about how her daughter's fame, risqué wardrobe and relationship with Russell Brand have challenged her faith, according to the New York Post.

In the proposal, Hudson reportedly recalls the conflict she felt over Perry's first big hit.

"She sang out, 'I kissed a girl, and I liked it,' while thousands joined her. One

Celebrity tweets



Charlie Sheen
[@charlie-sheen] Like a Dinosaur

Stampede from middle earth RAGING atop Col. Kilgore's main rotor, our assault must be EPIC. The Truth is our rocket fuel.



Eliza-beth Banks
[@Elizab-thBanks] I

was rocking a new denim shirt, feeling pretty cute until the huz mentioned I looked like an off-hours Jay Leno. G'bye new shirt.



Albert Brooks
[@Albert-Brooks] I

used to feel a sense of accomplishment when I wrote a screenplay, or a book, or had a child. Now I'm going for sentences here. Damn.



Eliza Dushku
[@eliza-dushku] Damn you

Pirates Booty! (just ate the whole bag by accident)

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► People walk along the seawall around Stanley Park in Vancouver.

Get out and enjoy Vancouver's spring

► The sun is out on Canada's West Coast and there are plenty of great outdoor activities to immerse yourself in ► Kayak, hike, walk, bike, rollerblade or standup paddle boarding

The cherry blossoms are out, the crocuses are peeking out of the dirt and vitamin-D deficient Vancouverites are blinded by a bright orb in the sky that they have not seen much of since winter began.

Sure, while the rest of Canada suffered through whiteouts and nursed back injuries from shovelling, residents of the West Coast city, for the most part, were in-line skating through the season.

But the arrival of spring is still cause for celebration for locals and visitors coming in from the cold of a real Canadian winter.

From the mountains to the sea and everywhere in between, if you want to

take advantage of the best the region has to offer, you better bring good running shoes.

Sea kayaking in Deep Cove
Pack some granola, hop into a kayak and make your way up the Indian Arm, known for its calm waters and stunning vista of the shoreline, forests and mountains. Deep Cove Canoe & Kayak Centre rents equipment and can provide a few basic safety tips to get you on your way.

For more info, visit deepcovekayak.com.

Sweating on the Grouse Grind

At Grouse Mountain every year, thousands of Vancouverites try to outdo each other racing up this



► Standup paddle boarder Ashley Turk is seen in False Creek near Granville Island in Vancouver.

gruelling 2.9-kilometre climb.

Plan for about a 90-minute trek, or track your time on the Grind Timer in true local fashion — fastest man's time is 23 minutes 48 seconds, while the fastest woman's time is 34 minutes nine seconds.

For more info, visit grousemountain.com.

Walk, bike or blade the Stanley Park seawall

This popular 22-kilometre pathway stretches along Vancouver's waterfront, from downtown, around Stanley Park, False Creek and Granville Island

to Kitsilano Beach.

The best way to get the local experience is to don sunglasses and yoga pants, grab a large Starbucks coffee and head out for a brisk walk while listening to your iPod. A great place to start is at Stanley Park.

For more info, visit vancouver.ca/parks/parks/stanley/seawall.htm.

Stand up and ... paddle

Vancouverites have taken yet another liking to a fast-growing fitness craze.

In standup paddling, a paddler, armed with a long oar, stands on top of a surfboard and navigates the water using strokes as one would in a canoe.

For more info, visit ecomarine.com.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Travel in brief



Chinese tourism officials say an agreement signed this week in Richmond, B.C., will help boost travel to Qingdao, China, a coastal city known internationally for its beer. Canadian tour companies will promote travel to the city, while Chinese companies will do the same for Richmond, says a report in the Beijing-based People's Daily Online English edition.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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There are a lot of beautiful beaches in the Caribbean, but not many

places can boast a beach for every day of the year.

The island of Antigua is said to have 365 beaches, one for each day of the calendar. You'd need a heck of a lot of SPF 40 sunscreen to spend time on all of them, but a select few are more than worth a leisurely visit.

You may believe you're hallucinating from one too many tropical drinks when you hit the pink sand. That's right, the pink sand of secluded and stunning Half Moon Bay beach, lo-

A beach for every day of the year in Antigua



▶ Antigua has some of the best beaches in the Caribbean.

cated only about five minutes from Freetown village on the southeast coast. I was immediately struck by the mile of fine powder pink sand that curved around the edge of the bay. Very weird, but still very cool.

The snorkelling and wind surfing were pretty impressive here also. I was glad to see that familiar Caribbean white sand at Galley Bay beach on the

northwest coast near Five Islands Village. I happened to show up here during a very special time, when baby sea turtles were hatching and making that long first journey to the sea.

I almost wanted to help out a few of those cute little leatherbacks trying to make their way to the water, by nudging them along, but sea turtles and nesting areas are heavily protected here, so I was

content to watch nature unfold in all its glory.

A few days later, I found myself once again wiling away the hours at yet another gorgeous venue, the aptly named Jolly Beach on the West Coast. As I basked in the turquoise blue luke warm waters, watching a few tropical fish swim lazily by, I thought to myself, That's three beaches down ... only 362 more to go. Nice work if you can get it.



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Ushering in spring

► After a long and harsh winter, it's time to look forward to warmer weather and lighter eats ► Check out these healthy, yet succulent, dishes



BOTH PHOTOS: ROSE REISMAN

Serves 4
Prep time:
15 mins.
Cooking:
30 mins.

► This tuna salad with roasted vegetables is filling enough to be an entrée.



ROSE REISMAN
FOOD@METRONWS.CA

After a long harsh winter, we finally have better weather to look forward to. Springtime cuisine is known to be lighter and healthier, since summer is just around the corner.

Enjoy my delicious lighter Frittatas, Tuna Niçoise and outstanding Lemon Pudding Cake.

Fresh Tuna Salad Niçoise with Roasted Vegetables

This is my favourite salad. It's a perfect main course and best with good-quality raw tuna. You can, however, substitute canned tuna packed in water.

Preparation:

- 1 Preheat oven to 425°F. Line a baking sheet with foil and lightly coat it with cooking spray.
- 2 Place potatoes, tomatoes, onions and asparagus on baking sheet. Lightly coat vegetables with cooking spray and bake for 10 minutes. Turn tomatoes and asparagus after 5 minutes, and remove from oven after 10 minutes. Continue cooking red onion for another 5 minutes, then remove from the oven. Continue cooking the potatoes for another 15 minutes, turning halfway through, or until tender.
- 3 Meanwhile, preheat a nonstick grill pan lightly coated with cooking spray over medium-high

heat, or preheat your barbecue to medium-high heat. Sear the tuna on each side for about 1 to 2 minutes, or until the outside of the fish is just cooked but the inside of the fish is rare. Take the tuna off the heat immediately. To stop the cooking process, place in the refrigerator immediately.

- 4 Arrange the spinach, cucumber and olives on a large serving platter. Top with the roasted vegetables.

- 5 To prepare the dressing, whisk together the olive oil, lemon juice, anchovies, garlic, mustard, salt and pepper. Pour the dressing over the salad and top with

the dill. Slice the tuna thinly and arrange it on top of the salad.

Lemon Pudding Cake

I love any dessert with lemon flavouring. This one has the texture of a soufflé but is slightly more dense. The pudding cake texture is unusual. During baking, the cake tends to separate. The top layer bakes as a cake and the bottom layer has a pudding consistency. It's incredibly moist.

Preparation:

- 1 Preheat the oven to 350°F. Lightly coat an 8-inch-square baking pan with cooking spray.
- 2 In a large bowl and using a whisk or electric beater, beat the egg yolks with 2/3 cup sugar until the mixture is thick and pale yellow. With a wooden spoon, stir in the yogurt, lemon zest, lemon juice and flour.
- 3 In another bowl and using clean beaters, beat the egg whites with the

cream of tartar until they are foamy. Gradually add the 3 Tbsp sugar, continuing to beat until stiff peaks form. Fold the mixture into the batter just until blended. Pour it into the baking dish.

- 4 Set the baking dish into a larger baking dish. Pour in enough hot water to reach halfway up the side of the smaller dish. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until the cake is golden and the top is firm to the touch. Serve immediately.

Ingredients:

- 2 large eggs, separated
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar (for egg yolks)
- 1 cup low-fat plain yogurt
- 1 Tbsp lemon zest
- 1/4 cup lemon juice (freshly squeezed)
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp cream of tartar
- 3 Tbsp granulated sugar (for egg whites)

Frittata With Sautéed Mushrooms



Serves 2
Prep time:
10 mins.
Cooking:
14 mins.

To enhance the flavour of this dish, use wild mushrooms such as oyster, shiitake or portobello.

Button mushrooms work as well, but be sure to sauté on a higher heat to ensure that the excess liquid evaporates.

Egg substitutes are used to lower the fat, calories and cholesterol in your recipes. You can find them in the egg section of your supermarket.

Preparation:

- 1 Lightly coat a small nonstick skillet with cooking spray. Add the oil and set over medium heat. Add the onion and garlic and sauté for 3 minutes, or until the onion is soft and lightly browned. Add the mushrooms and red pepper and cook for 5 minutes, or until the mushrooms are slightly dried. Set aside.
- 2 Wipe out the skillet and respray. Combine the egg substitute, egg whites and milk. Cook

Ingredients:

- 1 tsp vegetable oil
- 1/3 cup finely chopped onion
- 1/2 tsp chopped garlic
- 3/4 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1/4 cup diced red bell pepper
- 1/2 cup egg substitute (or 2 large eggs)
- 3 egg whites
- 1/3 cup low-fat milk
- 1 cup fresh baby spinach
- 1/2 cup shredded havarti
- 2 Tbsp chopped parsley

for 4 minutes over medium heat or until the egg begins to set. Add the onion and mushroom mixture, spinach and cheese. Cover and cook another 2 minutes, or until the cheese melts.

- 3 Slip the frittata onto a serving platter with a spatula. Cut into wedges, garnish with parsley and serve immediately.

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Women, take the page

► Women in the Field symposium unveils that inequality remains an issue in newsrooms ► Panelists agree that executive positions in journalism are still dominated by men

"Not only have we not won the war, we can't shut up."

JUDITH TIMSON,
FREELANCE WRITER AND COLUMNIST

Timeline

1846

► American journalist Margaret Fuller becomes the first female foreign correspondent and travels to Europe.

1941

► Eleanor Roosevelt holds women-only news conferences that contribute to the rise of female reporters.

1976

► Barbara Walters becomes the first female to co-

anchor network evening news.

1990

► The International Women's Media Foundation is founded with the goal of strengthening women's role in media worldwide as a means to further freedom of the press.

2007

► Katie Couric becomes the first solo female anchor of the evening news for a major network.



KYLA SERGEJEV
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

With the news of Lisa LaFlamme replacing Lloyd Robertson as CTV National News head anchor, you'd think women had finally won the battle for equality. But the recent symposium held at Ryerson University in Toronto on March 22, Women in the Field, uncovered otherwise.

Panelists focused on the ongoing struggle for equal treatment in the newsroom while addressing topics ranging from parenthood and success to international assignments and occupational stability.

Kathy English, public editor at the Toronto Star, said most women she's spoken to feel there is still a glass

ceiling holding women back in the industry.

"These days any inequality you experience is subtle, [and with women] there is a sense of don't rock the boat," said English. "It's easy to say look how bad it used to be, but it's not good enough yet."

Although there is an increasing presence of women in newsrooms and journalism schools, panelists agreed executive positions are still very much held by older, white males.

"The reality is that men are still in charge in much of the world and women continue to defer to them," said Karen Levine, documentary editor at CBC.

CBC director Sadia Zaman knows all too well how discrimination, not on-



► Women have made waves in the journalism field within the last century, but is the tide high enough?

ly against sex but also race, can put constraints on opportunities.

"It's very discouraging as a woman of colour in this

industry," Zaman said. "If you are a woman of colour, you will not see yourself in the executive positions here in Canada."

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— How will that help? It's a tiny gesture that reminds homeless youth they aren't invisible or worthless. And it's a tiny gesture that reminds you homeless youth have the potential to be something more. If you feel compelled to do more, visit our Facebook page.

— Learn. Support. Act at [Facebook.com/RaisingtheRoof](https://www.facebook.com/RaisingtheRoof)

You see an abandoned chair on the street and you think "It has the potential to be something beautiful!"

You see a homeless youth on the street and you think "Don't make eye contact."

RAISING THE ROOF HOMELESS YOUTH HAVE NOTHING, BUT POTENTIAL.

Hit stress with your best shot

► Young students are gaining discipline, courage and stamina with the help of a punching bag

About a half dozen kids wearing shorts and T-shirts gather around Tyson Cave at a Halifax boxing club. Some look sheepish, others confused.

The 29-year-old accomplished boxer isn't about to go easy on his young students, who've come after school to learn the basics of the contact sport.

While running laps, Cave caught one boy slowing to a walk. Now everyone has to do 20 pushups to make up for it.

"Boxing is a very dedicated sport and I tell all my kids if you're not dedicated 100 per cent, you're in the wrong sport," says Cave, a multi-time national amateur champion with a 14-1 record as a professional.

"I decided to dedicate myself 120 per cent so therefore I was successful."

The Halifax native, who's known as the Prince of Hali in boxing circles, works as a head coach at Palooka's Boxing Club. Five days a week, the facility offers free boxing and mixed martial arts classes for youth between the ages of 12 and 18.

He says the purpose of the after-school program is to give all youth – regardless of background – a place to go, make friends, learn responsibility and stay out of trouble and off the streets.

The club, owned by well-known Halifax entrepreneur and long-time boxing enthusiast Mickey MacDonald, funds the program



► Shyraya Sullivan participates in a free boxing program to encourage neighbourhood kids to have fun and get fit while learning the basics of the sport.

itself.

While the club attracts boxers from all over the city, it's no coincidence that it's located on Göttingen Street, a gritty thoroughfare punctuated by small businesses, apartments, government offices, a methadone clinic and a public library. But despite its rough-and-tumble reputation, the street has begun to show signs of revitalization in recent years.

Göttingen Street is also home to Uniacke Square, a neighbourhood consisting of low-income housing that has seen its share of violent crime and drugs. It's also where Cave says he spent part of his youth getting into trouble and "try-

ing to be a man while still being a kid from a rough area."

At 14, before Palooka's existed, Cave says he walked into another boxing club on a whim. He recalls the terrifying rush of jumping into the ring for the first time, beads of nervous sweat forming on his skin.

He also remembers how it felt to lose and the pact he made with himself to never face an opponent unprepared again.

Boxing gave him something positive to focus on.

"(I'm) living proof that if you do give a kid a chance, he can succeed and he can become something," he says. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



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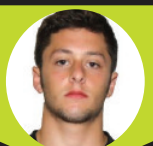
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4

Up and down

Michael Kirkpatrick

The former Dartmouth Subways star had three assists to lift the Saint John Sea Dogs to a 5-1 win over the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles in Sydney. Kirkpatrick was the third star and the Sea Dogs have a 3-0 lead in the best-of-seven first round.

**Alex Zafiris**

The 18-year-old forward from Halifax scored the game-winner with just 2:06 remaining to help the Lewiston Maineiacs to a 4-2 win over the Moncton Wildcats last night. The Maineiacs lead the QMJHL best-of-seven first round 2-1.



Scan code for news

'It was a tough game as we knew it should be'

The Halifax Rainmen's quest for the Premier Basketball League playoffs has come down to the wire.

Needing just one win to clinch a PBL post-season berth for the second straight season, the Rainmen lost 98-95 to the Saint John Mill Rats last night in New Brunswick.

The loss leaves the Rainmen and Mill Rats tied for the fourth and final playoff spot with matching 9-10 records. The winner of tomorrow's 7 p.m. regular-season finale between the Rainmen and Mill Rats at the Metro Centre gets the final spot.

"It was a tough game, as we knew it would be," said Rainmen owner Andre Livingston. "They played exceptionally well, hit some big shots, and pulled it out on their home court."

Six-foot-eight centre DeAndre Thomas, in his second tour of duty with the Rainmen, piled in a team-high 23 points.

Thomas, who signed with the Rainmen after being cut by the Lawton-Fort Sill Cavalry, is averaging 12 points per game in four contests.

If the Rainmen make the playoffs, they would host Game 1 of the best-of-three first round against the defending champion Lawton-Fort Sill Cavalry on Saturday at 4 p.m.

● MATTHEW WUEST

Dollard has good chance of playing

Josh Dollard could make a surprise return to the floor tomorrow night at the Metro Centre.

The Halifax rainmen's leading scorer — ruled out for the season in mid-March because of a torn calf muscle — has an "85 to 90 per cent chance" of playing in the must-win matchup with the Saint John Mill Rats at 7 p.m. at the Metro Centre, according to owner Andre Livingston.

"He's running, jumping, doing some good things, and we like what we see," Livingston said. "He might be ready to go."

Dollard, a six-foot-nine forward, was sixth in PBL scoring at the time of the injury, averaging 17.1 points per game.

● MATTHEW WUEST



► Mooseheads sniper Martin Frk fires a shot on Montreal Juniors goalie Jean-Francois Berube during the third period of last night's QMJHL playoff game at the Metro Centre. Berube turned aside all 29 shots from the Mooseheads in Montreal's 2-0 win.

The underdog status remains

► Mooseheads lose heartbreaker to fall behind 3-0 in best-of-seven first-round series ► Face elimination tonight at 7 p.m. at the Metro Centre



MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONEWS.CA

The Halifax Mooseheads finally showed they have a playoff pulse. But the Montreal Juniors made certain it's ever so faint.

The Mooseheads belied their status as 57-point underdogs last night at the Metro Centre, taking the nationally fourth-ranked Juniors to within a hair of overtime before losing a late-game heartbreaker 2-0.

Trevor Parkes broke a scoreless tie with just 68 seconds remaining to put the Juniors up 3-0 in the QMJHL best-of-seven first round. Moments before the goal, Mooseheads captain Travis Randell hit a cross bar and rookie Luca Ciampini was robbed on a rebound by the sharp pad of goalie Jean-Francois Berube.

"It was unfortunate ... We were buzzing the whole third period," said

"Everybody's motivated. It's playoff time. We have two 19-year-olds who don't know if we'll play as 20s, we have three 20-year-olds who could be playing their last game, so everybody's going to play their best (in Game 4)."

MOOSEHEADS GOALIE FREDERIC PICHE ON REBOUNDING FROM LAST NIGHT'S LOSS

Ciampini. "It would have been nice to get that goal. We had the whole crowd behind us and it would have brought us momentum (for Game 4) for sure."

This was a nail-biter that was much tighter than the Juniors' 5-3 and 6-0 wins in Montreal. The 3,302 who turned out for the Mooseheads' first playoff game in three years were treated to a hard-fought affair.

Parkes, who jammed in a puck from behind the net after a broken three-on-two, said it was a big relief for his squad.

"We were probably just as tense as they were on the bench," said the De-

troit Red Wings prospect, who fired blanks on 21 previous shots in the series. "It could have gone either way ... They played hard, it was a great game and we're just happy we got the win."

Raphael Pouliot padded the lead with an empty-netter with 24.6 seconds left.

Heading into tonight's Game 4 at the Metro Centre, the Mooseheads have not scored in 121 minutes and 43 seconds dating back to the third period of Game 1. They were unable to convert on five power-play attempts last night.

But at least they have a pulse.

"We know we can skate

QMJHL

Stats and notes from last night's game:

- 1 Luca Ciampini, playing his first game since Feb. 12 because of a knee injury, was double-shifted in the third period.
- 2 The crowd of 3,302 was less than half of the crowd of 7,073 that turned out for the last playoff opener in 2007-08.
- 3 The Mooseheads, who lost almost 70 per cent of faceoffs in Montreal, won 40 of 74 last night (54 per cent).

with them, we know we can keep up with them, we know we match them well," Ciampini said. "We shut down their lines and that last two minutes of the game, they just got that lucky bounce."

'Cricket diplomacy' brings India, Pakistan together

The decades-old rivalry between India and Pakistan moves back onto the cricket pitch today in a match that brings the Pakistani prime minister to India on a rare visit that may even nudge the nuclear-armed neighbours a step closer to peace.

Amid a surge of good will ahead of a blockbuster World Cup semifinal, officials on both sides of the border have predicted the so-called "gentleman's game" could help renew diplomatic co-operation and revive peace efforts frozen after the 2008 Mumbai terrorist attacks that India blames on Pakistan-based Islamist militants.

Love of cricket — bequeathed to both countries by South Asia's British colonial rulers — is one of the few things that Pakistan and India can usually agree on, despite a long history of mutual animosity that has fuelled three wars since the region's bloody partition of 1947.

Ordinary life will stop for several hours in both countries today as hundreds of millions of fans tune in to follow the India-Pakistan semifinal in the northern Indian city of Mohali.

Seizing the moment for a bit of sports diplomacy, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and his Pakistani counterpart Yousuf Raza Gilani said they would watch the match together at Mohali, in Singh's home state of Punjab. They will then hold talks over dinner, officials said.

Few expect any breakthroughs beyond showing the world that the two leaders are willing to engage in dialogue.

"The entire attention of the people of the two countries will be on the match," said Pakistan's former foreign secretary, Shamsad Khan. "I don't expect anyone will have much interest in the meeting ... it's basically chit-chat."

Still, Pakistan — delighted by the invitation — also said it would free an Indian man imprisoned 27 years for alleged espionage.

The warmer atmosphere marks a major change from years of gruff politics that kept the rivals in stalemate and worried governments abroad.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One down, 5 more to go

► Mikhail Grabovski's goal helps Toronto to big 4-3 victory over rival Buffalo ► Team would still likely need five more wins to make playoffs



► Mikhail Grabovski celebrates his eventual game-winning goal last night against Buffalo.

The Toronto Maple Leafs weren't willing to let their playoff hopes evaporate without a fight.

Mikhail Grabovski's second-period goal held up as the winner and rookie Nazem Kadri added two assists in a standout performance last night as the Maple Leafs pulled out a tense 4-3 victory over the Buffalo Sabres.

It was a crucial game for a Toronto team facing long odds to make the playoffs. The Maple Leafs are still five points adrift of Buffalo for eighth in the Eastern Conference and will likely

4	3
LEAFS	SABRES

need to win all five of their remaining games to have any chance.

A loss to the Sabres would have virtually ended their hopes.

Dion Phaneuf, Darryl Boyce and Clarke MacArthur had the other goals for Toronto (35-32-10).

MacArthur also added two assists.

Thomas Vanek, Jason Pominville and Rob Niedermayer replied for Buffalo (38-29-9).

One of the keys to Toronto's playoff push has been a change of fortunes against Buffalo, which lost to the Leafs for the third straight time since the all-star break.

It was a tense final period at Air Canada Centre with the Leafs clinging to a one-goal lead.

James Reimer took one shot off the mask during a power play and managed

to fall on the puck with plenty of traffic in front.

Phaneuf got Toronto off to the kind of start it needed, skating into the Sabres end and beating Ryan Miller with a hard shot at 1:34. The Sabres goaltender was left staring in disbelief at his catching glove.

The Leafs extended the lead to 2-0 at 10:46 after Kadri stripped the puck off Shaone Morrisonn in the corner and worked the puck out front to Boyce, who scored his fifth of the season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anaheim paves way for Kings to move

The Anaheim city council unanimously approved a \$75-million US bond deal last night to entice the Sacramento Kings to relocate to Orange County.

The city council twice voted 5-0 for the measures to a round of applause from its packed city hall meeting room, calling it another major step in luring the Kings to Honda Center.

"Anaheim took a giant step closer to bringing an NBA team to Anaheim and the Honda Center," Anaheim Mayor Tom Tait said. "I'm thrilled. Actually, a better word is stoked."

Tait repeatedly emphasized the city is borrowing no money and has no financial risk in the deal. According to every Anaheim official in the meeting, the city is acting as a conduit for a private investment by Henry Samueli, the billionaire owner of the NHL's Anaheim Ducks.

Samueli also manages the city-owned arena, and he's putting his own money into a deal for \$25 million in upgrades to Honda Center including a practice court and new locker rooms, along with another \$50 million in moving costs that could include relocation fees paid to the NBA's other owners.

Although most city officials were careful to emphasize the bonds could be used to move any team, not just the Kings, council member Kris Murray acknowledged the obviously messy emotions behind an apparently clean financial deal.

"My heart does go out to the Sacramento fans and residents," Murray said. "They're a great team, and I know we would be proud to have them in our city ... I hope we come up with some creative way to replace the cowbell."

The well-travelled Kings' move out of the city they've called home since 1985 still is far from a done deal, although this lucrative financing deal removes a major obstacle for Kings owners Joe and Gavin Maloof.

The Kings must file for relocation by April 18, and the NBA's other 29 owners must approve the move by majority vote. The Maloofs then might need to pay a relocation fee to the owners, including possibly hefty payments to the Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Clippers, who share Staples Center about 50 kilometres away.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New concussion rules for MLB

14

Any player needing more than 14 days to recover will automatically be transferred to the 15-day disabled list. There is also a 60-day disabled list.

A seven-day disabled list for concussions wouldn't have done Aaron Hill much good when the Toronto Blue Jays second baseman missed the final four months of 2008 with the injury.

That didn't stop him from saying the move, and several other guidelines instituted by Major League

Baseball yesterday, was another positive sign the sport is doing more and more to address concussions.

MLB and the players' union announced a new set of protocols that take effect on opening day to deal with concussions, including the creation of the new seven-day disabled list

that should give team doctors and the injured players more flexibility to address head injuries.

"I think it's good they're paying more attention to these things because they're seeing the long-term effects concussions can have on players," Hill said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

5 drive

By comparison

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Kia Forte

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Longer, wider, better

There's little or no resemblance to the somewhat bland and underpowered 2008-11 Focus.

The new version is longer, wider and the front and rear wheels are set farther apart. Although the sedan's trunk has shrunk a bit, the hatchback provides cavernous stowage, especially with the rear seat folded forward.

Sedan is just as good

Parked alongside its Fiesta relation, the Focus looks positively aggressive with its wide-open-mouth air intake and more planted stance.

For those who just can't get with the sleek-looking hatchback, the sedan version offers a more conservative silhouette. It's also the only style available if you order the price-leader Focus S, which begins at \$16,450 (including destination charges).

Engine: what's not to like

The standard 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine should be to everyone's liking. Output is pegged at 160 horsepower and 146 pound-feet of torque.

That's 20 more horses and 10 more pound-feet than the outgoing 2.0-litre engine had. In the next 12 months, Ford expects to add a high-output turbocharged powerplant option, as well as an all-electric-powered model.



► The Focus is offered in hatchback and sedan (pictured) body styles that are radical departures from the previous models.

Ford focusing on new European 'game'



The days of North Americans being one step behind the rest of the world seem to be coming to an end.

It was assumed that we simply weren't interested

in stylish, firm-riding hatchbacks that Europeans were driving, so they were seldom offered here. After all, we liked soft, pudgy cars with spoilers and plastic body cladding, right? We never did, really, but that's what we got.

The upshot was that our Ford Focus was not the

same as the European Ford Focus: not even close.

But the cost-saving global-design movement is changing the way the game is played and many excellent European models are now showing up.

The 2012 Ford Focus and its smaller Fiesta relation are closely similar to

models available throughout the world. The only major difference is that a four-door sedan body style has been added to both lineups for our market. As well, the Fiesta originates from Ford's Mexico plant, while the Focus rolls off the assembly line in Wayne, Mich.

The much-improved Focus shouldn't be viewed as just another econo-compact, but as Ford's mainstream model that can be outfitted according to taste and/or budget. It should also be a treat for anyone who appreciates an efficiently packaged car with European flavour.

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VEHICLE HISTORY REPORTS

► Bentley could have chosen anywhere to launch its new Continental GT, but it didn't choose just anywhere ► The country of Oman is on the move and so is this German-owned British builder of fast and luxurious autos



ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED BY WHEELBASE MEDIA

Beamers and Benzes are nice, but lets talk about Bentleys please



MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

Sultan Qaboos bin Said has been the power on the throne in Oman for the past 40 years.

During his rule, the Sultanate has evolved into a thriving country that appears blessed with peace and tranquility.

And with nearly one million barrels of crude oil per day being pumped from beneath the Sultan's royal slippers, there's evidence of prosperity nearly everywhere you look.

In an oddly comparative way, Bentley has also undergone a major transformation.

Under Volkswagen's ownership since 1998, the Crewe, England-based automaker has evolved from producing small batches of expensive high-powered coaches into a constructor of somewhat mass-produced luxury conveyances.

Leading this renaissance is the Continental GT, a four-seat, all-wheel-drive

coupe that arrived for the 2004 model year.

Since then, Bentley has sold more than 28,000 around the world, making it by far the most successful model built since Walter Owen Bentley founded the company in 1919.

Commenting on the company's previous money-losing history, Bentley engineering head Ulrich Eichhorn says that "the Continental GT saved Bentley."

With its first-rate highways, moderate 30 degrees C winter climate and stunning

315

The car's top speed is 315 km/h.

ning coastal, mountain and desert scenery, Oman is an excellent backdrop to showcase the updated GT's formidable capabilities.

Parked on the polished marble entranceway to Muscat's appropriately named Shangri-La hotel, the 2012 GT appears little changed from the previous

coupe.

A close inspection reveals slightly more pronounced fenders and a reshaped trunk lid.

To create these intricate panels, Bentley employs a process called Aluminum Super Forming that applies both heat and air pressure to a sheet of lightweight aluminum alloy.

The GT's signature chromed mesh grille sits slightly more upright and the restyled headlamps are now ringed by small Light Emitting Diode (LED) daytime running lights.

At the opposite end, the LED taillights blend smoothly into the haunches and the twin oval tailpipes have been widened to emphasize the coupe's slightly wider stance.

The front-to-rear power allocation is set at 40:60 for normal driving conditions, but the AWD system will immediately adjust that ratio if either the front or rear traction becomes compromised.

Along with delivering wide, thrust-induced grins, the GT can hustle through tight corners as if being magnetically held to the pavement, which is certainly surprising given the car's heft and physical size.

If one was blessed with about \$210,000 to spend on personal transportation, this Bentley's absolute luxury and take-no-prisoners performance would easily match any driving enthusiast's penchant for the automotive good life.

It's a formula for Bentley's progress, in a country that appreciates it.

Lowdown

What you should know about the 2012 Bentley Continental GT:



- **Type:** Two-door coupe.
- **Layout:** Front-engine, all-wheel-drive.
- **Transmission:** Six-speed automatic with paddle-shift controls.
- **Safety:** Front airbags; side-impact airbags; side-curtain airbags; anti-lock brakes; traction control; stability control.
- **Weight:** 2,325 kilograms (about 60 kilograms less than the 2010 model).
- **What's next?** A V8-powered GT arrives in late 2011.

4.4

According to Bentley, the GT can accelerate to 100 km/h in 4.4 seconds. Its Volkswagen-based 6.0-litre twin-turbocharged 12-cylinder engine wields 567 horsepower (up 15 from the previous GT).

Interior



- Opening the wide doors of this beauty leads to a leather lover's paradise. Fully 80 per cent of the cabin is covered in soft-touch hides for the seats and door panels plus a more grainy finish for the steering wheel and dashboard.
- Every expertly stitched, perfectly matched square inch of bovine epidermis is a delight to sit in and around.
- What isn't coated in leather is covered in wood veneers. Walnut is the standard application, but six other finishes are offered.



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Far out! Groovy! Right on! Let it all hang out even! Because VW appears finally ready to re-introduce its iconic Microbus, the official vehicle of hippie-ness.

VW introduced a Microbus concept, simply called 'Microbus' for the 2001 Detroit auto show. Everyone seemed to like it, but VW obviously didn't green light it for production, unless I've had too much to dream this last decade, and somehow missed it.

But at last month's Geneva auto show, VW introduced another Microbus concept, this time called 'Bulli' and the chances are better

than average that we will see a production-based version of this design in a few years.

When the original vehicle debuted in 1950 it was internally known as T1 — for Transporter 1. But Germans always called it 'Bulli' and North Americans always called it 'Microbus'. I think at this point it responds to either name, but I'm sticking with Microbus.

Unlike the 2001 concept, this new concept

is compact — shorter even than its 1950 predecessor. Judging by its current dimensions, it appears production versions would be based on a new compact platform, which will see the light of day next year on the third-generation Audi A3.

But tidy as it is, it still seats six, via two bench seats. The seats all fold down to create a "sleeping" area — so the Microbus' camping traditions will continue.

Another novel interior feature is a removable i-Pad in the centre console, which serves as a multifunctional touch screen and lava lamp stand-in.

With A3 architecture, a production version could use any number of the company's powertrains. The concept's powertrain, however, is 100 per cent electric. A front-mounted 85kW electric motor and 40kWh lithium-ion battery drives the front wheels, and is said to give Bulli a range of about 300 km.

Acceleration and top speed should be leisurely, which is entirely in keeping with the Microbus legacy. The 1950 model had a 40-hp rear-mounted engine and

the aerodynamics of a Home Depot garden shed.

But it had personality and versatility galore and all sorts of people — hippie and otherwise — loved them.

Even with its front-engine layout, the Microbus concept manages to evoke the vibe of the original, particularly when looking at the vehicle head on.

Like the original, the concept uses two-tone paint to create the van's signature "V" face, complete with an oversized "VW" emblem.

A VW board member said there is a "big chance" the vehicle will be built, and that the U.S. market is keen on it. To keep costs competitive, when VW sells smallish vehicles in North America it tends to build them there as well. So building a North American Microbus might entail quite a bit of investment.

But never say never. As that eloquent hippie, Ken Kesey, once said: "The sixties are not over; they're not over until the Fat Lady gets high."



Volkswagen's new Microbus concept is called Bulli

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Crash safety is key for hybrid vehicles

DRIVING FORCE

JIL McINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Once a rare sight, hybrids are now pretty much considered "everyday" vehicles, and they'll soon be joined by several others, including plug-in hybrids, extended-range and electric vehicles.

These models all contain large batteries and high-voltage cables, but that shouldn't be cause for alarm. Not only are they safe to drive, but they pose no more hazard in a crash than a conventional gasoline-powered car.

"There are a number of safeguards built into them to make sure that when you're driving it, you're safe," says Sandy Di Felice, director of external affairs for Toyota Canada.

"Part of what we did, when we launched the Prius back in 2000, was to take an industry-leading position and coordinate with emergency responders to create training protocols that would help



► When the Prius was launched, Toyota worked with emergency responders to create training protocols for emergency response staff.

train emergency response staff."

Hybrid safety in a crash is a combination of the safeguards built into the vehicle, and the training and procedures used by emergency response personnel.

Hybrid safety is engineered into the vehicle from its inception. High-voltage cables are routed away from areas where first responders normally work, and they are sheathed in metal casings and colour-coded with bright, standardized colours. They have mechanisms that shut down the power in case of emergency, and the sealed bat-

tery contains a gel rather than a liquid to minimize leaks.

These safety features protect emergency personnel, technicians who work on the cars, and even vehicle owners who may poke around the car's inner workings.

Di Felice says that it would actually be challenging for someone to overcome the safety features.

Emergency personnel work with automakers to understand how all vehicles are built, what safety and wiring features they contain, and the safest way to dismantle them when necessary.

atlanticford.ca

Looking for a solid small car?

► Rio looks to be a safe and affordable used-car bet, but isn't totally trouble free ► Watch for timing belt failure

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONWS.CA

Kia's officially become a force to be reckoned with in the Canadian automotive marketplace — and many folks are wondering how the reliability of their older models has panned

out in the long term.

After all, long-term reliability is a success factor for any automaker planning an extended stay on our shores.

The Rio is Kia's entry-

level model, and a replacement to the 2006 to 2010 generation is on the horizon. Competing on price and value against models like the Toyota Yaris and Honda Fit, Kia offered the Rio up in a small sedan or five-door model with a 110-horsepower, 1.6-litre engine, front wheel drive and

both automatic and manual transmission options.

Look for features like USB audio connectivity, heated mirrors, tinted glass, cruise control and air conditioning. Folding rear seats helped enhance flexibility for hauling larger items around, too.

What Owners Like

Most Rio owners say that good overall value and a good warranty attracted them to the car, while a surprisingly refined ride and peppy performance helped seal the deal. Gas mileage, headroom, comfort and even styling are also highly rated. Many Rio owners coming from comparable Toyota and Honda products agree that the Rio is a well-done small car at a reasonable price.

What Owners Hate

Rio's owner-stated downsides deal with cheap interior plastics, rattles and squeaks as the car ages, a 'wimpy' factory stereo system and a 'plain' look to the cabin. Some drivers also wish for a quieter ride.

Common Issues

Check the used Rio for "check engine" or "airbag" lights on a test-drive. If either or both are illuminated, determine why before agreeing to purchase the vehicle. Other potential electronic issues may include headlight or tail lamp failure.

Engine and automatic transmission performance or roughness issues may also be caused by a bad sensor or computer — but have a trained Kia mechan-

What's the 4-1-1

- **Model:** 2006 to 2010 Kia Rio
- **Vehicle Type:** Sedan or five-door
- **Approximate used price range:** \$4,000 to \$16,000

ic check to be certain.

Additionally, some owners report faster-than-expected wear of consumable parts — including tires and brakes, and to a lesser degree, suspension components. Though the longevity of these parts is largely subject to driving style and locale, a check over of the used Rio's consumable parts is highly advised, too.

Note that the Rio uses a timing belt system to control camshaft timing — and that the belt needs to be replaced regularly before it fails.

Letting the Rio's timing belt fail will stop the engine dead in its tracks and may cause catastrophic damage.

Ensure the timing belt in the model you're considering isn't overdue for a change.

In light of several reports of premature timing belt failure, changing the belt ahead of schedule isn't a bad idea.

The Verdict

With the availability of remaining warranty coverage, low residual values and relatively decent reliability, a healthy used Kia Rio looks to be a fairly solid used car bet.

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► A 2006 Kia Rio is shown. The Rio is Kia's entry-level model.

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Dependability is a must.
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Fax: 422-5610

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Cars & Trucks for Sale

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- 31,000km (96,000kms/lease)
- Warranty: Toyota Full Extra Care Protection Plan
- Dealer inspected Jan. 8, 2011
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Cars & Trucks for Sale



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Ford Focus SE
4cyl. Auto, Fully Loaded,
Only 64k kms

\$12,985 or \$84b/w
Motomart - 407-4200



2010
Toyota Corolla S
4cyl. Auto, Fully Loaded, Sunroof, cloth, 43k kms

\$19,985 or \$128b/w
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2004
Ford Mustang Convertible
6cyl. Auto, Fully Loaded, Cloth, 87k kms

\$12,985
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2005
Chevrolet Silverado Crew
5.3L V8, Loaded, Cloth, 4x4, 113k kms

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Only 70k kms

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Capitulating views from renovated and modern downtown condo. 1 Bdrm, balcony, h/w floors and only \$157,500
Contact Michael: 292 7786
michael@reddoorrealty.ca



Cars & Trucks for Sale



1100 Sackville Drive
Middle Sackville (902)869-2020



2007 Cobalt LT
42000 KMs, 2.2L 4 Cyl, A/C, Auto, Power Group, 2 Year MVI, Balance of Warranty \$7995

Cars & Trucks for Sale



2007 VW
Beetle Convertible
4cyl, 5 speed Loaded, Leather, 72k kms

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5.7L V8, Fully Loaded, Cloth 4x4, 123k kms

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Motomart - 407-4200



2008
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4cyl. Auto, A/C Cloth, Only 92k kms

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3 year old Halifax home was custom designed with many upgrades such as hardwood floors, custom cabinetry with Corian countertops, center island, open concept kitchen. Formal dining room as well, but could be cozy den/office. Finished basement with walkout; rec room, office area, play room, storage and bath. The 2nd floor has 3 bedrooms, the master has an ensuite with jacuzzi tub and walk in closet. Lot is fully landscaped and has cemented driveway. Close to schools and shopping. Contact Tamara at (902) 497-7858; or email: tamara@whitestonedevlopments.ca



Cars & Trucks for Sale



2007 Saturn Vue
56000 KMs, 2.2L 4 cyl, A/C, Auto, Power Group, New Tires, 2 Year MVI \$10995



2007 Saturn Ion Quad Coupe
76000 KMs, 2.2L 4 cyl, A/C, Auto, Power Group, 2 Year MVI, Bal. of Warranty \$7995

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Hi my name is Nine! I am an all Black American Pit Bull Terrier. I am looking to stud. I am healthy and well mannered! Please call my person Bianca at 902-483-9859

Other



Looking for Male Hedgehog

My lady Hedgehog Ruby is looking for a boyfriend if you have a male Hedgehog who would like to spend time with her please Email: rubywantsbables@gmail.com

Community Events

Manheim Halifax

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Community Events

**Multicultural Health and Wellness Fair
FOR IMMIGRANTS AND NEWCOMERS**
Free admission

Thursday, March 31, 2011 9:00am - 2:30pm St. Andrew's Community Centre
6955 Bayers Rd., Halifax, NS

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Community Events

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Events

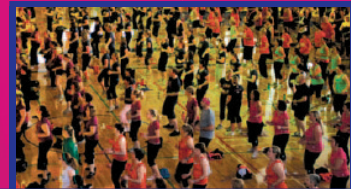
Scrapbook Your WAY ALL DAY!
Saturday May 14th 9am to 6pm
Beginners are welcome! Stress free event!
Door Prizes! 24 spaces available.
http://ca.mymcsm.com/sites/sharon-sweeney Full Details online! 471-7797

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EVERYONE WHO
HELPED MAKE BUST A MOVE
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**THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT, BUST A MOVERS RAISED
\$741,500 NET! COMBINED WITH A GENEROUS GIFT OF \$122,000 FROM
TELUS, YOUR EFFORTS ARE PROVIDING A TOTAL OF**

\$863,500

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& MOVE**
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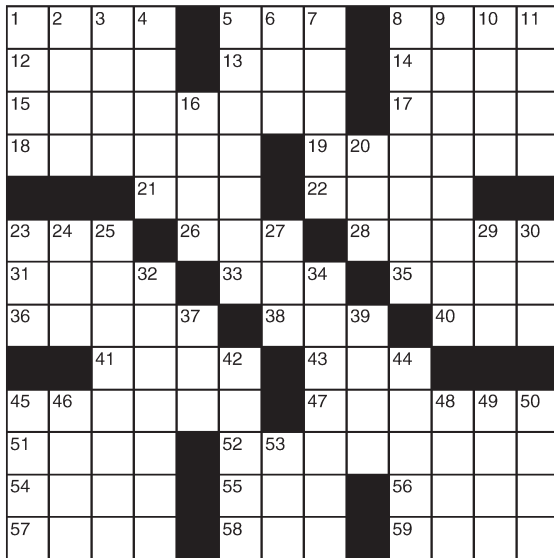
Crossword

Across

1 NYPD types
5 Scratch
8 Open somewhat
12 Oil cartel
13 Have bills
14 Diamond corner
15 Something one likes
17 Met melody
18 Classify
19 "The Taking of — 1 2 3"
21 D.C. figure
22 — gin fizz
23 English channel?
26 Jewel
28 Scoundrel
31 Wander
33 Fort —, N.J.
35 Tend texts
36 Sleep disorder
38 "Glee" actress Michele
40 Pouch
41 Commanded
43 Unburden
45 Carboic acid
47 Pizza toppings
51 Parliamentary title
52 Sports page grid
54 Shrek, for one
55 Raw mineral
56 Director Kazan
57 Autocrat
58 Existed
59 Stalk

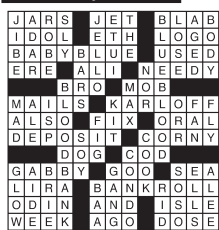
Down

1 Caesar co-star
2 Piece of work

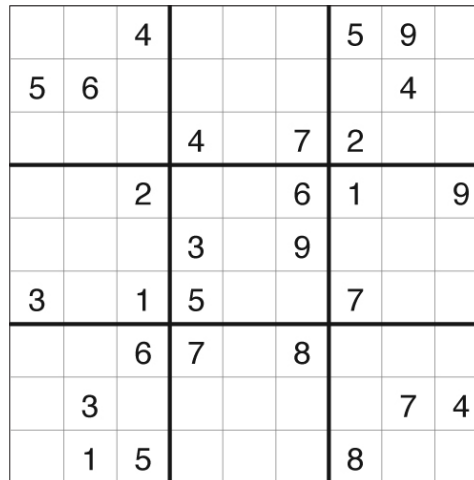


3 Energizes, with "up"
4 Cone contents
5 Having blotches
6 Shock and —
7 Harvests
8 Ornamental shell
9 Marines (SL)
10 Largest of the seven
11 Paper quantity
16 Kermit, e.g.
20 Wapiti
23 Shape shifter?
24 Conk
25 Australia's capital
27 Wire measure
29 By way of
30 List-ending abbr.
32 Gad about
34 Photocopies
37 Commotion
39 Has a bug
42 Knee counter-part
44 Cuts into cubes
45 Story line
46 Gluttons
48 Chevy hybrid
49 Great Lake
50 Fashion line?
53 — pro nobis

Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

4	8	9	3	2	1	5	6	7
6	2	7	5	9	8	1	3	4
5	3	1	6	4	7	8	9	2
3	1	8	2	6	9	7	4	5
7	6	5	8	3	4	9	2	1
9	4	2	7	1	5	3	8	6
2	5	6	9	7	3	4	1	8
8	9	4	1	5	2	6	7	3
1	7	3	4	8	6	2	5	9

Today



6°/-2°
Variable

Thursday



6°/-2°
Partly cloudy

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Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 As Mercury, planet of the mind, turns retrograde in your sign today, you will have to look at some of the decisions you have made in recent weeks.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Some of your old fears and worries may resurface today but it is only a passing phase, so don't be alarmed. In a matter of days, you will realize that it's all in your mind and that none of it can possibly hurt you.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You seem to believe that if you don't push yourself, you will miss out and that others will get the applause that should have been yours. Maybe they will. But more likely, they'll get things thrown at them!

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You may be worried about where you are going, especially on the work front. But there's no need to change your plans. Trust that fate will lead you where you most need to go.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23 It will pay you to rethink something you decided in the past few weeks, especially if your initial decision was made in haste. It's not often that you get the chance to go back and put things right. Don't waste it.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 What seems like bad news early in the day may turn out to be good news by the end of the day. There is no need to worry. Keep that thought in mind over the next few weeks.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 It may be tempting to withhold your approval from someone who has let you down, but is that wise? Most likely it will make the situation worse than it needs to be, so let it go.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Something is worrying you and the only way you are going to recover your peace of mind is to confide in someone you trust. Almost certainly you are overreacting but you won't know until you talk about it.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 If you let people get away with things they do not deserve to get away with, you'll regret it. Let them know there is a price to be paid for trying to push you around.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Sometimes, the best way to deal with a problem is to ignore it. That is what you must do today. Most likely what you see as a problem is just your imagination playing tricks.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Go back and take care of something that should have been dealt with weeks ago. It's not often you get a second bite at the cherry but that's what the planets are offering you now. Don't turn it down.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Others may say that plans you made earlier in the month will have to be revised in the light of new information but don't believe them. Nothing has changed. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest



"Charlie Sheen has my WHAT?"
DAVID

WIN!

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Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.



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U0313	E-Class	2008	E300	Automatic	Flint Grey	78,800 km	\$39,900	\$36,900
M0163A	S-Class	2007	S550 4Matic	Automatic	Blue	56,000 km	\$72,450	\$69,900
U0344	E-Class	2008	E500 4Matic	Automatic	Obsidian Black	25,667 km	\$51,900	\$49,900
U0326	C-Class	2008	C300	Automatic	Palladium	48,500 km	\$35,500	\$34,900
U0345	M-Class	2008	ML320 CDI	Automatic	Cuprit Brown	31,728 km	\$48,900	\$48,900
U0330	C-Class	2007	C280	Automatic	Black	56,600 km	\$23,900	\$22,900
U0349	E-Class	2009	E350 4Matic	Automatic	Obsidian Black	37,889 km	\$50,900	\$49,900
U0336	GL-Class	2008	GL320 CDI	Automatic	Pewter	74,000 km	\$54,900	\$53,900
M0185A	S-Class	2007	SLK280	Automatic	Caspian B	19,900 km	\$36,900	\$35,900
M0262A	C-Class	2004	CL230	Automatic	Iridium S	89,700 km	\$12,900	\$11,900
M0224A	E-Class	2000	E320 4Matic	Automatic	Desert Si	256,000 km	\$7,990	\$5,995



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